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-PATENT
5468-02200/AT9-99-732

SC
#6A
12/15/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Schwerdtfeger et al.

Group Art Unit: 2178
Examiner: Adam Queler

Serial No. 09/458,646

Atty. Dkt. No. AT9-99-732

Filed: December 9, 1999

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Kevin L. Gaffer

AMENDMENT; RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 31, 2003

MS: Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

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Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed July 31, 2003 to further highlight reasons why the captioned application is in condition for allowance. Please amend the case as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.